



## **ROBERT LIVINGSTON (1654 - 1725)**

**The 20th Century Biographical Dictionary of Notable Americans, Vol.6, p.458**

**Robert Livingston, the first lord of the manor, was born at Ancrum, Roxburghshire, Scotland, Dec. 13, 1654; son of Dr. John Livingston (1608-1672), a Presbyterian minister, who was banished from Scotland in 1663, on account of his nonconformist views, and went to Holland soon after the restoration of Charles II. Robert accompanied his father in his flight to Rotterdam, and immigrated to America in 1673, and after spending part of a year in Charlestown, Massachusetts Bay colony, removed to Albany, N.Y.**

**In Albany, Robert was secretary of the commissaries who superintended the affairs of Albany, Schenectady, and the parts adjacent, 1675-86. He was married in 1683 to Alida, daughter of Philip Pietersen Schuyler, and widow of Nicholas Van Rensselaer. In 1686 he received from Governor Thomas Dougan a grant of land comprising large parts of what was subsequently set off as Dutchess county, and the grant was confirmed by royal charter from George I., who erected the manor and lordship of Livingston. Robert Livingston was appointed to proceed to New York with his brother-in-law, Peter Schuyler, to obtain a charter for the manor from Governor Dougan, under which charter he was town clerk, 1686-1721. In 1689 he attached himself to the anti-Leisler faction. He was secretary of the convention held at Albany, Oct. 25, 1689, which, while it acknowledged the sovereignty of William and Mary, opposed Leisler's proceedings. When Richard Petty, sheriff of Albany, reported to Leisler that Livingston favored the Prince of Orange, Leisler ordered Livingston's arrest, and the latter retired to one of the neighboring provinces until the arrival of Sloughter, in March, 1691.**

**In 1694 Robert made a voyage to England, was shipwrecked on the coast of Portugal, and obliged to travel through Spain and France by land. He returned to New York in 1696, accompanied by his nephew, Robert Livingston. While in England he was appointed by royal commission, dated Jan. 27, 1695-96, commissioner of excise, receiver of quit rents, town clerk, clerk of the peace, clerk of the common pleas for the city and county of Albany, and secretary for the government of the Indians in New York.**

**He obtained for Robert Kidd a commission to rid the American seas of buccaneers; but Kidd himself turned pirate and the expedition failed.**

**In September, 1696, the charge of alienation was preferred against him by the council, but through the influence of Lord Bellomont, who arrived in April, 1698, to take charge of the government, he was appointed one of the council, September, 1698, and in the autumn of 1700, was reinstated in all his offices. He was accused by the Leislerian commission of appropriating the public money for his own use, and of**

employing improper influences to induce the Indians to favor his going to England on behalf of their interests at the court. He refused to exonerate himself of the charge by oath and on April 27, 1701, his estates were confiscated and he was suspended from the council board. Through the intercession of Lord Cornbury he was vindicated.

On Feb. 2, 1703, he regained his estates, and in September, 1705, he was reinstated in his former offices. He was elected a member of the assembly from Albany in 1711, and from his manor, 1716-25, serving as speaker 1718-25, when he retired on account of ill-health. He died in Albany, N.Y., April 20, 1725.

Robert's oldest sons, Philip and Robert, became famous in their own right and produced a tree of famous descendants.

**[Robert Livingston](#)** <sup>DL</sup>

**b:**<sup>1</sup> 13 Dec 1654, Ancrum, Roxburghshire, Scotland

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 20 April 1725, Manor of Livingston, NY

**m:**<sup>2</sup> 9 July 1679, Presbyterian Church, Albany NY

father:<sup>1</sup> Reverend John Livingston

mother:<sup>1</sup> Janet Fleming

**[Alida Schuyler](#)** <sup>DL</sup>

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 28 Feb 1656, Beverwyck NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 27 Mar 1729

father:<sup>2</sup> Philip Pietersen Schuyler

mother:<sup>2</sup> Margaretta van Slichtenhorst

**Alida Schuyler first married Reverend Nicholas Van Rensselaer.**<sup>2</sup>

**1. John (Johannes) Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 26 Apr 1680, NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 1720, England

**John Livingston was one of the Representatives for New London in the General Assembly at New Haven, CT, 1706-07; member of the Council, and attended the meetings of the same from Jun 1709 to Jul 1710.**

**He married, first, Mary Winthrop (d:8 Jan 1713, only child of Fitz-John Winthrop, Governor of Connecticut. He married, second on 1 Oct 1713, Elizabeth Knight (d:17 Mar 1735-6) daughter of Mrs. Sarah Knight.**

**John had no children by either marriage.**<sup>2</sup>

**2. Margaret Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 5 Dec 1682, NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> June 1758

Margaret married on 20 Dec 1700, Colonel Samuel Vetch, later first English governor of Annapolis Royal, who died in debtor's prison in London England. Their daughter, Alida Vetch, married Stephanus Bayard on 12 Mar 1725.<sup>2</sup>

**3. Johanna Phillipina Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 1 Feb 1683-4

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 24 Jan 1689-90

**4. [Philip Livingston](#)**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 9 Jul 1686, Albany NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 4 Feb 1749, NYC

Philip, the second Lord of Livingston Manor, married Catharine Van Brugh.<sup>2</sup>

**5. [Robert Livingston, Jr.](#)**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 24 July 1688, Albany NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 27 June 1775

Robert married Margaret Howarden, 11 Nov 1717.<sup>2</sup>

**6. [Gilbert \(Hubertus\) Livingston](#) **

**b:** 3 Mar 1690, Albany NY

**d:** 25 Apr 1746, Kingston NY

**7. William Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 17 Mar 1692

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 5 Nov 1692

**8. Johanna Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 10 Dec 1694

Johanna married Cornelius Gerrit Van Horne.<sup>2</sup>

**9. Catharine Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 22 May 1698, Clermont NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 6 Dec 1699

## **Gilbert Livingston** <sup>DL</sup>

**b:** 3 Mar 1690, Albany, Albany County, NY

**d:** 25 Apr 1746, Kingston NY

**m:**<sup>2</sup> 22 Dec 1711, Kingston NY

father:<sup>2</sup> [Robert Livingston](#)

mother:<sup>2</sup> [Alida Schuyler](#)

**Cornelia Beekman** <sup>DL</sup>

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 18 Jun 1693, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 24 Jun 1742

father:<sup>2</sup> [Henry Beekman](#)

mother:<sup>1</sup> [Joanna Lopers Davidson](#)

Gilbert Livingston was a lawyer, registrar of the Colonial Court of Chancery in 1720, and clerk of the county of Ulster the same year. From 1728 to 1738 he was a member of the Assembly for the Manor; major of Dutchess County militia and received the commission of lieutenant-colonel in 1739.

Under his father's will he inherited one-seventh part of the Saratoga patent.<sup>2</sup>

President George Bush is a descendent of Gilbert Livingston.

### **1. Robert Gilbert Livingston**

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 11 Jan 1713

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 27 Oct 1789

Robert Gilbert was loyal to the British Crown, even though his three sons held commissions in the Continental army.

He was a merchant in New York City and married Catharine McPheadres, the daughter of John McPheadres and Helena (Johnson) McPheadres, on 3 Nov 1740. They had 5 children.<sup>2</sup>

### **2. [Henry Livingston](#)**

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 29 Aug 1714, NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 10 Feb 1799

### **3. Alida Livingston**

**bap:** 20 May 1716, NY

Alida Livingston married, first, Jacob Rutsen (24 Nov 1737), son of John Rutsen and Catharine (Beekman) Rutsen; married, second, Henry Van Rensselaer, son of Hendrick Van Rensselaer and Catharine (Van Brugh) Van Rensselaer.<sup>2</sup>

#### 4. Gilbert Livingston

Died young.<sup>2</sup>

#### 5. Gilbert Livingston

Married Joy Dorrell of Bermuda. Their children were Dorrell and Gilbert Livingston.<sup>2</sup>

#### 6. Johannes Livingston

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 5 Oct 1720, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> Oct 1739

#### 7. Johanna Livingston

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 28 Aug 1722, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 16 Sep 1808

Johanna married, May 28, 1728, Pierre Van Cortlandt, who was member of Colonial Assembly, president of the New York Committee of Safety, and first Lieutenant-Governor, State of New York, 1777.<sup>2</sup>

#### 8. William Livingston

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 23 Aug 1724, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> Sparta

Died unmarried.<sup>2</sup>

#### 9. Phillip Livingston

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 26 Jun 1726, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> Curacao

Died without issue.<sup>2</sup>

#### 10. James Livingston

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 7 Apr 1728, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> Poughkeepsie NY

James was sheriff of Dutchess County in 1761, a member of the Provincial Congress in 1776-77, and in 1777, chairman of the New York Committee of Safety.

James' will was dated 16 Sep 1789 and was probated March 24, 1790.

He married Judith Newcomb (1733-1808), the daughter of Thomas Newcomb and Judith (Woodworth) Newcomb, on 11 Nov 1751.<sup>2</sup>

#### 11. Samuel Livingston

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 1 Feb 1730, Kingston NY  
**d:**<sup>2</sup> at sea

**Died unmarried.**<sup>2</sup>

**12. Cornelius Livingston**

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 30 Apr 1732, Kingston NY

**Died unmarried.**<sup>2</sup>

**13. Catharine Livingston** 

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 21 Jul 1734, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 1769, Hartford CT

**Catharine married Johnathan Thorn, (1724-14 Nov 1777, Hartford CT). They did have children.**<sup>2</sup>

**14. Margaret Livingston**

**bap:**<sup>2</sup> 23 Jun 1738, Kingston NY

**bur:**<sup>2</sup> 14 Nov 1777

**Margaret married Peter Stuyvesant on 17 Oct 1764. Peter (13 Oct 1727-7 Oct 1805) was the great-grandson of Governor Stuyvesant (1602-82). They had six children.**<sup>2</sup>

**Colonel Henry Beekman**   
**(Hendrick Beekman)**

**d:** 1716, prob New York

**m:**<sup>1</sup> 1680, prob New York

**father:**<sup>1</sup> [William Beekman](#)

**mother:**<sup>1</sup> [Catherine De Bough](#)

**Joanna Lopers Davidson** 

**(Joanna De Lopere)**

**b:** Abt. 1656

**father:**<sup>2</sup> Captain Jacob Lugt de Loper (of Stockholm)

**mother:**<sup>x</sup> Cornelis Melyn

**Henry Beekman was a member of the colonial assembly, and a judge of the county of Ulster. He was the eldest son.**<sup>1</sup>

**The town of Beekman NY was named for him.**

**[Rhinebeck](#) was founded in 1686 as a result of a significant land transaction of 2,200 acres between four Dutchmen and six Indians of the Esopus (Kingston) and Sepasco (Rhinebeck) tribes. The Dutch settlers, Gerrit Artsen, Arie Roosa, Jan Elting and Henrick Kip, still have relatives residing in the area today. The Dutch settlers called their**

community Kipsbergen and it was not until 1713 that the name "Ryn Beck" appeared as a result of the area's Judge Henry Beekman's reference to his accumulating landholdings.

Joanna Lopers Davidson was the widow of Joris Davidson.<sup>2</sup>

1. Cornelia Beekman<sup>DL</sup>

**b:**<sup>2</sup> 18 Jun 1693, Kingston NY

**d:**<sup>2</sup> 24 Jun 1742

William Beekman<sup>DL</sup>

(Wilhelmus Hendrickse)

**b:**<sup>1</sup> 28 April 1623, Statselt, prov Overysel, Holland

**d:**<sup>1</sup> 1717, New York

**m:**<sup>1</sup> 5 Sep 1649, New York

father:<sup>1</sup> Henry Beekman

mother:<sup>1</sup> Mary Baudertius

Catherine De Bough<sup>DL</sup>

(Catalina de Boogh)

**b:**<sup>1</sup> New York

William Beekman was the son of Henry Beekman of Wezel by his second wife, Mary Baudertius.

William came to New York in May 1647 with Governor Peter Stuyvesant, and became a large land holder in the city of New York. In 1658 he was appointed Governor of the Sweedish [sic] colony at Christina in Delaware. He subsequently resigned that office and returned to New York and was appointed Sheriff of Kingston; and was mayor of New York in 1680.

William and Catherine had three sons and four daughters.<sup>1</sup>

1. Colonel Henry Beekman<sup>DL</sup>

(Hendrick Beekman)

**d:** 1716, prob New York

## **Gilbert Livingston Will December 12, 1745**

Page 623.--In the name of God, Amen. I, GILBERT LIVINGSTON, of Kingston, in Ulster County, being sick and weak. Whereas there is to be raised out of the land given by my father-in-law Colonel Henry Beekman, to my beloved spouse Cornelia Livingston, deceased, the sum of 3,000, for my 10 younger children, Henry, Gilbert, Philip, James, Samuel, Cornelius, Alida, wife of Captain Jacob Rutson, Joana, Catharine, and Margaret, The said sum shall be equally divided among them. And whereas there is to be raised the sum of 1,000 for me and my heirs and assigns, I give the same and all my lands and estate to my eldest son, Robert Livingston, and my other 10 children. My executors have full power to sell all lands to pay debts. I make my sons Robert and Henry, and my son-in-law, Captain Jacob Rutsen, and my beloved nephew, Robert Livingston, son of my brother, Robert Livingston, executors.

December 12, 1745. Witnesses, Thomas Beekman, Jacobus De Lameter, Job Viele.  
Proved, August 29, 1746.

End of Liber 15.

green Livingston book p.19

HUBERTUS or GILBERT LIVINGSTON, fourth son and sixth child of Robert Livingston and Alida (Schuyler-Van Rensselaer) Livingston, was born March 3, 1690. He was registrar of the Colonial Court of Chancery in 1720, and county clerk of Ulster the same year. From 1728 to 1738 he was a member of the Assembly for the Manor; major of Dutchess County militia and received the commission of lieutenant-colonel in 1739. Under his father's will he inherited one-seventh part of the Saratoga patent. It was on this land that General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates in October, 1777.



